



Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee

E. Jay Carlson Community Development Building, 18400 Murdock Circle,
BCS Large Conference Room, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Board Members:

District:

Coty Keller, Chair	District 4
Don McCormick, Vice-Chair	District 2
Thomas Brock.....	District 3
Patrick Jurek.....	District 1
Wendy Lang.....	District 5
Jeff Anlauf.....	Member-at-Large
Ed Hill.....	Member-at-Large

MINUTES

July 2, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order:

Vice-Chair McCormick called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chair McCormick asked those in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call / Determination of a Quorum

Upon Secretary Clim calling the roll it was determined a quorum was not present.

Mr. Keller, Mr. Brock, Mr. Anlauf and Mr. Hill were absent

4. Approval of Minutes

- Approve the Minutes from February 6, 2020

Mr. Jurek moved approval of the February 6, 2020 BSAC minutes, second by **Ms. Lang**; approved unanimously.

5. Changes to the Agenda

None offered.

6. Citizen Input on Agenda Items

None offered.

7. New Business

None offered

8. Old Business:

Regional Resiliency Task Force - Claire Jubb, Asst. Co. Administrator

Claire Jubb, Asst. Co. Administrator, said she wanted to talk a little about the SW Florida Regional Resiliency compact, which is something we have been working on for many months. It took a slowdown because of Covid-19 but it is on the Board agenda for the 14th of July to sign onto the memorandum of understanding, which will be first step in creating the actual compact. If the Board does choose to sign that memorandum, I am understanding they will be one of the first jurisdictions in SW Florida to do so. Sanibel is also having a hearing that same day. This is a significant step forward in developing the compact and trying to move resilience issues forward on a regional basis. We have support from FGCU and the Governor's office. It is used throughout many other areas of Florida. There are different compacts in other areas of Florida.

Update on the One Charlotte One Water Assembly - Claire Jubb, Asst. Co. Administrator

Claire Jubb, Asst. Co. Administrator, said it has been a little slow because of the virus, but it has not stopped us. We have a very active task force working hard on water quality issues. We are close to formalizing a communications strategy on how we can do a lot of the outreach and education we need to do to promote water quality from businesses to residences to visitors and development. We have an education team that is working closely with the school board and with the schools around here to introducing the water quality aspects into the schools. This is going really well. Some of the things we were not able to do was some of the outreach events we were planning on doing with Public Works. We have developed a job spec for a water quality manager position. This will go to the Board in the next few months to approve this position.

Presentation by Dave Blewett, FWC, Filamentous algae trends

Mr. Blewett, FWC, stated he wants to talk about Charlotte Harbor. He has been studying the harbor and it is an exceptional estuary. He had a power point presentation and discussed that. Issues in the monitoring program are studying fish in the harbor, he spoke about the diversity of fishes in the harbor and pollution. The program he works with is called Fisheries Independent Monitoring. Started in 1989 in Tampa Bay. Then it was moved to Charlotte Harbor several months later. It is a long-term fishery monitoring program they monitor for fish populations in our estuaries throughout the state and it's done in a similar manner so we can make references on monthly and yearly changes. The program directives, we track abundance of fish in Florida's estuaries and determine the effects of regulations, pinpoint essential fish habitat and investigate the effects of natural and manmade disturbances. We have an outstanding estuary for sport fishes. We have exceptional habitat for snook and sheepshead, and we have exceptional nursery habitat for those species and tarpon, red fish, grey snapper and gag. The Harbor has a diverse habitat and fishes. Storms can blow fish into the harbor from the Gulf of Mexico. There can be range expansion because of temperature changes. He showed a power point presentation explaining most of this and showing pictures of the fish. He discussed some of the algae blooms in the recent past. Showed pictures of the blooms and what they looked like. He said Hurricane Irma was the biggest rain they had in many years. This probably pushed nutrients all around and that also causes blooms. He discussed some of the issues and challenges since the 1960's and 1970's regarding what is coming into the Harbor.

Matt Logan/Zach Patchell, Public Works

- Manasota Key Beach Renourishment Project
- South Beach Fill Renourishment
- Stump Pass Project
- Engineering Projects Update Report
- Chadwick Cove channel
- Sunrise water

Matt Logan said Manasota Key beach and South beach – everyone knows we have this beach renourishment project joined with Sarasota County. We placed a total of just over 1.2 million cubic yards on our beaches. This extended from north of the blind pass, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up the blind pass, beach park in Sarasota County down to Stump Pass State Park, but there are some areas where we did have to take out of the project because of people not wanting to be involved with the project. Ultimately, we renourished about 6.01 miles of beach, and this included about 300,000 cubic yards of material in Sarasota County, the remainder being Manasota Key which was about 578,000 cubic yards and Don Pedro Knight Island south of Stump Pass, we placed 340,000 cubic yards. It went very well. Obviously with some projects you will have some complications, but as far as the beach project, it went out as smoothly as you could hope for.

Mr. Logan said the 3 homes that are furthest seaward, have had some erosion problems. We reconstructed their berms. I have a project to replant those dune systems so we can reestablish the dune vegetation and stabilize that. The next big one is the mitigation brief. We looked at doing this project before the beach project kicked off and as time went on, and we did not get the ARMY Corp permit as timely as we had hoped, but with the type of work they do placing boulders into 20 feet of water, you cannot have rough seas. Most of the guys don't want to work in the winter when the gulf has more wave action. That sent this into spring, now Covid has pushed it a little further. The contractor from Texas has other projects going on in Miami and New Orleans, and saw significant delays with the covid virus, but we are working with them. This has been extended about 60 days. You should see the barge with rocks around July 15th on Manasota Key.

Manasota Key and Stump Pass we are continuing to monitor this summer. Coastal Engineering will be doing their survey of the task and the groin to see how that has performed. Depending on how the task is performed, we can extend that another year. Right now, it is budgeted for fiscal year 2021. Associated with that project, I asked Michael and his group to investigate coming into ski alley, so he will investigate that. The timing might not be able to be included in the f/y 2021, because it would need to be a permit modification. If it can be included great, if it cannot, we'll proceed to address that in the future.

For the engineering projects, I have transitioned away from doing the canal maintenance project and Zak Patchell is taking this over. Either he or I will be here in the future to discuss these items. The main projects he is looking at is a spot dredge at Alligator Creek. We have had impacts from Irma that had shifted the newly dredged channel. We had just finished that, and a week later Irma came through and moved our 6 foot channel outside of the markers. Since 2017 we have been trying to get temporary aids to navigation installed and we are unfortunately unable to get those permits to put those in. With the recent opening of Buckley's pass in Punta Gorda, we received an outpouring of concerned citizens because they opened the pass and all of the sudden, they are going through the channel and running aground. They did not know where the water was. We quickly got on board and got this project done within a months-time, we went from a lot of complaints to getting this spot dredge done. This should be wrapping up next week.

The Sunrise channel, that just got approved. We are initiating an emergency spot dredge of the sunrise channel. This should be coming quickly.

New Business

No Dogs on Beach – Parks and Natural Resources

Ms. Scudera said several months ago, it was brought to our County Attorney's attention that we need to reinterpret our existing Ordinance referencing dogs on the beach. Historically, staff has always been directed to follow the procedure that dogs are not allowed on any of the beaches in Charlotte County. The result of the legal determination is that dogs are not allowed on County owned, operated and maintained beaches. That is Englewood Beach and Port Charlotte Beach Park. Stump Pass Beach State Park also does not permit dogs on the beach, but that is a State park. We cannot enforce State Ordinances. We do ask all citizens to make sure dogs be on a leash.

Commissioner Truex said sometimes people bring their dog on the beach and let them run, and then they chase the birds.

Parks and Natural Resources

- Parks and Natural Resources Update
- Derelict Vessel Update Report

Ms. Scudera said for derelict vessels, Roger was able to update the list. Any investigations that took place after March 1st, had to be restarted because of Covid and the stay at home order. It was determined that requesting citizens rectify boats when they were not allowed to be out, was not a good way to process. Investigations have started again, and it looks like we are making good progress. 8 are ready for removal. 1 is being removed right now. 3 are sited and there are 6 open cases.

We have employees on the beach 4 days a week now and we have sea turtles coming in very heavy this year. For all of Charlotte County, we have a total of 874 nests. On Manasota Key we have 495 nests. We have 91 on Palm Island, 81 on Knight Island, 87 on Don Pedro and 120 on Boca Grande. We do not have any numbers for Gasparilla Island, historically we have, but they lost the monitor out there. Linda stopped monitoring a few years ago. We had another lady, but she moved. They are working on getting someone with authorization for Fish and Wildlife who pass the criteria. For shore birds and sea birds, lots of good information for the lease terns for Charlotte County, we had up to 150 adults that were counted and up to 38 chicks and 46 nests. Wilson's Clovers we've had up to 8 adults and 3 chicks. On Bird Island, which we also monitor, but you can only get to by boat, we documented an American Oyster catcher – 2 adults and a nest. Last count we did not see any nests of chicks.

9. Correspondence and Communications
None

10. Public Comments

Ellie Decker, who is on the Manasota Key MSTU Board, said she was interested with items on the agenda. She wanted to thank everyone who is serving the community. She feels it is very important. The FWC and the Sheriff's department, and our Commissioners, they all have a lot going on with the things that are going on in the world right now, we need good people to step up to the plate and be active and protect the citizens. She just wanted to encourage and support the Beaches and Shores Committee. She said she received an email which was signed by the Governor, it is for a fine for people who pollute. Also, a task force was appointed for reporting the algae, and as the legislation was reviewing it, it was watered down and it is not as strong as we wish it could be, but it was also approved by the Governor.

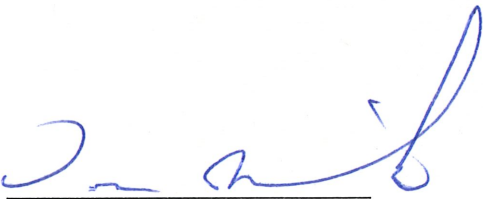
11. Comments by Administrative Staff or Consultants
None offered.

12. Member Comments
None

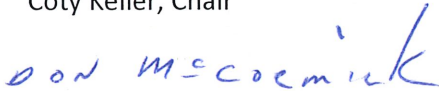
14. Next Meeting

- The next Regular Meeting of the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee will be **Thursday, August 6, 2020** at 9:00 a.m. in the large conference room of Building Construction Services unless otherwise announced.

15. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Coty Keller", written over a horizontal line.

Coty Keller, Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Don McCoemick", written below the signature of Coty Keller.